

A CARD GAME WITH PREDETERMINED HANDS IN A FORTUNE**COOKIE****BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION****Field of the Invention**

[0001] The present invention relates generally to card games, and more particularly to card games having predetermined hands of cards embedded in fortune cookies.

Description of the Related Art

[0002] Eating fortune cookies after a meal, and sharing the written predictions or fortunes contained therein is a well-established and rich tradition. The strength of that tradition masks the lack of alternative uses for fortune cookies found in the prior art. Fortune cookies provide a unique and valuable opportunity for persons to interact with games and light-hearted discussion at the conclusion of a meal. For those interested in something different than merely reading a fortune, the existing art does not provide a solution. Those interested in the opportunity to engage in a quick competitive game chance of chance at the conclusion of a meal are required to plan in advance, and bring their own cards to dinner, and act precluding the spontaneous thrill usually associated with a quick game of cards.

[0003] Nothing in the prior art provides a solution to this problem. While it is known in the art to place game cards with food products, nothing suggests the specific opportunities provided by fortune cookies. Other known prior art recognizes the utility of using predetermined hands of cards when a conventional card deck is not convenient because of the locale where a game is to be played. However, the prior art fails to suggest the numerous packaging opportunities made available by non-conventional card decks. Moreover, no prior art card game uses alternative packaging for a poker hand, much less the idea of embedding predetermined card hands into fortune cookies to allow for a quick game of chance with friends after a shared meal.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0004] The present invention is a novelty item to be used in a game involving fortune cookies and the like. The game includes at least one strip of paper having one hand unit of cards. Each hand unit displays one or more cards thereon, with each card having exactly one suit and denomination. A strip of paper is embedded into a fortune cookie in the conventional manner that traditional fortunes are currently embedded into fortune cookies.

[0005] During or after a meal (or any gathering of two or more people), the fortune cookies are broken open and the hand units of the strips of paper are compared to determine a winner based on traditional card game rules. Some examples include poker or high/low (i.e., who has the highest card).

[0006] In an alternative embodiment, the strip of paper may have a perforated line located between adjacent cards to allow each individual card to be selectively separated and discarded. The ability to discard cards allows the present invention to accommodate many different types of card games. The number of cards in a hand may vary to accommodate many different types of game rules.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0007] Figure 1 is a perspective view of a fortune cookie with dotted lines indicating the embedded position of the strip of paper.

[0008] Figure 2 is a perspective view of a fortune cookie containing a strip of paper that has been opened.

[0009] Figure 3 is a perspective view of the strip of paper with perforated lines in between every two adjacent cards, and the left most card already separated from the strip of paper.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

[0010] Referring now to the drawings, there is illustrated in Fig. 1 a drawing of a strip of paper 12 embedded in a fortune cookie 10. The strip of paper 12 is embedded into the fortune cookie in the conventional manner that traditional fortunes are currently embedded into fortune cookies under the existing art. The fortune cookie 10

may contain one or more strips of paper 12. The fortune cookie 10 is opened in any conventional manner that traditional fortune cookies are opened in the existing art.

[0011] Illustrated in Fig. 2 is a drawing of a fortune cookie 10 that has been opened. The strip of paper 12 is separable from the fortune cookie 10 upon the opening of the fortune cookie 10. Removal of the strip of paper 12 from the fortune cookie 10 reveals that each individual card 18 bears the indicia of one denomination 16 and one suit 14. The indicia is printed on the strips of paper 12 by any suitable method. The strip of paper 12 could contain as few as one card, or the strip of paper 12 could contain virtually as many cards as required to play a particular card game. The size of the strip of paper 12, the size of the indicia of denomination 16, and the size of the indicia of suit 14 could each be adjusted to incorporate a greater or lesser number of cards.

[0012] In one preferred embodiment, between every two adjacent cards is line 20 dividing the two adjacent cards. The line 20 is perforated to allow the selective separation and removal of individual cards 18 from the strip of paper 12. For example, if strip of paper 12 contained a seven card poker hand, line 20 would permit selective discard of two cards. Referring to Fig. 3, the left most card 22 on the strip of paper 12 has been removed from the strip of paper 12. The remaining cards 16 are subject to removal from the strip of paper 12 by the traditional means in the prior art in which perforated edges are separated.

[0013] In accordance with one aspect of the invention, a group of people (having at least two people therein) are provided with a fortune cookie 10. Each person breaks open the fortune cookie 10 to reveal at least one strip of paper 12 having a pre-printed poker hand. The respective strips of paper 12 of each person are compared against one another to determine a winner. If the meal is played at a restaurant, the winner's meal is paid for by the other players. In the alternative embodiment, each individual selectively removes individual cards 22 to play a card game.

[0014] While the invention has been specifically described in connection with certain specific embodiments thereof, it is to be understood that this is by way of illustration and not of limitation, and the scope of the appended claims should be construed as broadly as the prior art will permit. A person of ordinary skill in the art

[illegible]